Computer training centres in the country

1633. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of training centres, Institutions, Societies, Schools and Colleges etc. in the country imparting education in Computers;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to keep control on such computer training centres:

(c) whether it is the policy of Government to encourage the setting up of such centres; and

(d) what steps are being taken to boost computer education in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The Department of Electronics (DOE) has accredited 522 Institutes in the Non-Formal Sector in order to boost the computer education in the country. Apart from these institutions, 233 institutions in the formal sector are also conducting computer courses at various levels. Computer Training Programmes are also conducted under the scheme 'Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools' So far, 2816 schools have been covered under this scheme. The Accordition of Computer Courses Scheme of the DOE ensures that the accredited course bears a stamp of quality in regard to syllabus, faculty, hardware, software and other infrastructural facilities.

Funding of elementary education by foreign agencies

1634. DR. C. K. PANDEY:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to stae:

(a) whether foreign agencies like UNDP, UNICEF and ODC (Britain) are entirely funding all programmes for compulsory elementary schooling; and

(b) if so, how he NCERT stipulated approach and standards are being maintained?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir Primary Education in India is funded by the State Governments. Additionally, in an effort to achieve universalisation of elementary education, Government of India is running several centrally sponsored schemes like Operation Blackboard, Non-Formal Education, with domestic resources. In addition several basic education projects have been initiated in keeping with National Policy on Education 1986 (and as revised in 1992) and the Programme of Action 1992. These projects take a holistic view of elementary education development and have been designed and implemented nationally. The National Council of Educational Research and Training alongwith other national resource institutions have provided technical assistance for project preparation and implementation in these basic education projects.

Basic Education projects in the country are funded both by domestic and external resources. UNICEF assistance for the Bihar Education Project and Swedish International Development Authority assistance for Lok Jumbish Project in Rajasthan is shared in a ratio of 3:2:1 between the external funding agency Government of India and the State Government respectively. The European Community has committed funding for the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) in Madhya